

## **Minutes of the Executive Committee**

**February 15, 2010**

Chair Dwyer called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Executive Committee Members Present:**

Jim Dwyer	Dave Swan	Duane Paulson
Pat Haukohl	Tom Schellinger	
Bonnie Morris	Fritz Ruf (arrived at 8:34 a.m.)	

### **Also Present:**

WCFLS Director Tom Hennen	Chief of Staff Mark Mader
Deputy Director of HHS Don Maurer	Office Services Coordinator Karen Cooper
ADRC Manager Cathy Bellovary	Drug Free Community Coordinator Ellen Shiflet
Drug Free Community Coordinator Irene Secora	Budget Management Specialist Linda Witkowski
Engineering Services Manager Gary Evans	Legislative Policy Advisor Dave Krahn
Director of Parks and Land Use Dale Shaver	Community Development Coordinator Glen Lewinski
Legislative Policy Advisor Sarah Spaeth	Senior Financial Analyst Clara Daniels
Senior Financial Analyst Bill Duckwitz	Corporation Counsel Tom Farley
Joe Schwanker of the Waukesha County Affordable Housing Task Force	
Coordinator of the Waukesha County Affordable Housing Task Force Betsy Foss-Campbell	
Don French of the Waukesha County Affordable Housing Task Force	
Coordinator of the Waukesha County Affordable Housing Task Force Mary Peschel	

### **Correspondence**

A list of correspondence was distributed to committee members. Dwyer read a letter and resolution from Supervisor Peter Wolff regarding RTAs.

Ruf arrived at 8:34 a.m.

### **Legislative Update**

Krahn distributed a condensed chart of legislation, which lists bills that stand a chance of being signed by the governor before the end of the legislative session. Krahn reviewed the following bills: AJR 65, AB230, AB366, SB263, AB654, SB205, SB511, SB205 and SB399. In response to Haukohl's question, Krahn responded that the Department of Administration has no problems with SB399.

### **Approve Minutes of December 7, 2009**

MOTION: Paulson moved, Ruf second, to approve the minutes of December 7, 2009. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Approve Minutes of January 25, 2010**

MOTION: Paulson moved, Haukohl second, to approve the minutes of January 25, 2010. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-074: Repeal and Recreate Section 18-163 by Adding Adverse Determinations of the Aging and Disability Resource Center and Managed Care Organizations to the List of Exclusions to County Appeal Process**

MOTION: Paulson moved, Ruf second, to approve Ordinance 164-O-074.

Paulson said it is not an obligation of the county to listen to appeals for the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs). It is the duty of the county to advise people of their rights and provide the appropriate forms when necessary. The county is not an advocate for the people in this instance. The Health and Human Services Committee unanimously approved this ordinance.

Bellovary said it is up to the MCOs to make decisions regarding services and levels of service. County staff may explain the appeal process to participants but appeals must be addressed directly with the MCOs. Program participants should first speak with staff at the MCOs when they have a problem.

Motion carried 7-0.

**Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-082: Approve Waukesha County Membership and Participation in the Proposed Marsh Country Health Alliance Commission**

MOTION: Paulson moved, Morris second, to approve Ordinance 164-O-082.

Maurer said last year Waukesha County entered into an agreement with other counties to form a nonstock corporation for the placements at the Dodge County Clearview facility. The state declared the nonstock corporation invalid and impermissible under state statutes so the corporation became a commission. Medicaid rules have changed and amounts have not increased in years so some doctors will not take Medicaid patients. Medicaid pays for about half of the nursing home fees with private pay making up the difference. It is hard to find a place that will accept Title 19 rates. The state will lease space from Dodge County and losses will be divided proportionately between counties. The alternatives to Clearview are Mendota or Winnebago Institutes, which would drive costs from \$1.5K to \$2K per month to \$800 to \$1K per day. Joining the commission minimizes the costs and Dodge County does a good job with clients especially when they start acting up and exhibiting problems. Dodge County would provide rates taken from a five-year rolling average so movements up or down would be slight. HHS staff is confident with the proposal.

Bellovary said the facility is about an hour from Waukesha County, which is more convenient for families than other facilities in the state. Maurer said Dodge County could not kick Waukesha County patients on Title 19 out of the facility if Waukesha County does not join the commission. Dodge County can make it difficult for the patients to return if they need to leave for regular hospital stays. Maurer said there is an opt out clause if there is a problem with commission membership.

Paulson said it is in Waukesha County's best interest to approve this ordinance. The HHS Committee is quite familiar with the content of the ordinance and approved it unanimously. The opt out provision is important. The commission is contracting with Dodge County and Waukesha County is contracting with the commission.

Haukohl asked whether Waukesha County's representative on the commission would serve from now on. Maurer said that is correct. Haukohl asked if the member would be a county board supervisor. Maurer said the members will work together to finalize the wording in the agreement and then the agreement would be reviewed by Corporation Counsel before it is signed by county representatives. The wording could be changed to document the appointment process. The county wants someone involved who is part of policymaking and the budget setting process.

Dwyer asked if the facility has an opportunity to expand. Maurer said capital costs are part of the formula in the five-year rolling average.

Motion carried 7-0.

**Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-083: Reauthorize "Helping Patrons in the Job Market" Grant for Federated Library System and Modify the 2010 Federated Library System Budget**

MOTION: Paulson moved, Rufsecond, to approve Ordinance 164 -O-083.

Hennen said approval of this ordinance would allow for the continuation of the “Helping Patrons in the Job Market” program through the renewal of Waukesha County’s online subscription to the LearningExpress Library online resource for approximately \$12,200. Hennen distributed a bookmark from the program that included a list of services provided by the program including GED preparation, job search and workplace skills, skill building for adults, college preparation, etc.

Paulson said the Workforce Development Center offers these same programs. Does this grant duplicate services or augment them? Hennen said this program augments services provided at the Workforce Development Center by allowing citizens to access the program online. Hennen committed to bring statistics to the Finance Committee meeting February 17, 2010 showing the success of the program.

Motion carried 7-0.

**Committee Reports by Committee Chairs for the Following Meetings:**

Health and Human Services February 11, 2010 – Paulson said the committee approved several ordinances including Ordinance 164-O-074, 164-O-082, 164-O-089 and 164-O-090. Ordinance 164-O-089 promotes breastfeeding and its nutritional benefits to women. Ordinance 164-O-090 approves grant funding for programs at Lutheran Social Services.

Public Works – February 11, 2010 – Swan said the committee approved Ordinance 164-O-085 (regarding capital project 200011 CTH L, CTH Y to Moorland Road) and bids for capital project #200617 (Radio Services Building remodeling and addition). The committee also approved Ordinance 164-O-081 (modifying the transportation fund 2009 budget) and heard presentations on the secure corridor project update and HHS building project. Judge Bill Domina stopped by the meeting to introduce himself to the committee.

Judiciary – February 12, 2010 – Morris said the committee approved three ordinances that bring funding to Waukesha County for radios, computer equipment and sensitive crimes security. Ordinance 164-O-087 amends the Sheriff’s Department 2010 budget to receive donations to purchase a dog for the canine unit. The committee also heard updates on the Medical Examiner and secured corridor projects and Courthouse security.

**Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-084: Modify the Waukesha County U. W. Extension 2010 Budget to Accept Funding from Waukesha School District for Substance Abuse Prevention Project (SAPP)**

MOTION: Swan moved, Ruf second, to approve Ordinance 164-O-084.

Cooper said this ordinance authorizes UW-Extension to accept a grant from the Waukesha School District to carryout a Substance Abuse Prevention Project (SAPP) at Blair Elementary, Butler Middle and Central Middle Schools for one semester.

Schiflet said one of the goals of the Drug Free Coalition is to do work in NARSA neighborhoods. This project provides UW-Extension the opportunity to collaborate with the Waukesha School District which has been involved with the Drug Free Coalition since its inception. The school district surveys students in grades 6 through 10 on attitudes and use of illegal substances. This data motivated UW-Extension to collaborate with the district. This pilot program will use evidenced based curriculum to provide kids leadership and resistance skills training. A parent component was included in the program to extend lessons to the families. Classes will meet one time per week for 14 weeks for the youth and once per month for parents. At the end of the pilot, staff will evaluate and determine what steps to take next. Pre- and post activity evaluations will be conducted in addition to informal journaling to measure the success of the program.

Morris asked if funding is available to do follow up research for three years? Schiflet said the program is data driven. UW-Extension will meet with school district staff to discuss the possibilities.

Paulson asked how are youth being recruited for the program? Schiflet said the entire 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Blair will participate in the program, the Butler Middle School program will focus on youth in the after school program, and youth leadership and after school programs will be recruited for the Central Middle School program.

Swan said the fiscal note indicates that \$6K will be spent on meals. How much is that per meal? Schiflet said \$6K would cover meals at three sites for 20 kids and their families for an approximate per cost of \$5 per person.

Motion carried 7-0.

**Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-085: Modify Capital Project 200011 CTH L, CTH Y to Moorland Road and Reduce Debt Borrowing and Other Funding in the 2010 Capital Budget**

MOTION: Swan moved, Rufsecond, to approve Ordinance 164 -O-085.

Witkowski said this ordinance adjusts the 2010 capital project-funding budget by reducing the planned 2010 debt borrowing by \$1M. The reduction in borrowing will allow debt issues spending to be managed within IRS arbitrage requirements. The reduction in borrowing will also reduce future debt service and interest payments. The ordinance does not change the project timeline or project.

Mader asked does this ordinance cause any changes in the project compared to when the budget was developed? Wikowski said a detailed cash flow estimate was done.

Motion carried 7-0.

**Presentation and Discussion on Housing Trust Fund Proposal**

Peschel distributed folders which contained information on the Waukesha County Housing Trust Fund. Peschel asked why does Waukesha County need affordable housing? She explained that the difference between wages and the cost of housing does not allow people who work in Waukesha County to afford to live in the county. Workers cannot qualify for mortgages or find affordable rental options in Waukesha County. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development defines affordable housing as spending no more than 30% of one's adjusted gross income for housing. One in four people in Waukesha County spends more than 30% of their income on housing while 40% of renters exceed the 30% limit. Thousands of people in Waukesha County are not making ends meet because they pay too much for housing. One solution to this problem is a housing trust fund dedicated to provide an ongoing source of income for affordable housing. A governing board awards funds through an application process to develop nonprofit organizations or government agencies that propose high quality projects that meet local housing needs. Affordable housing is vital to the economic future of Waukesha County. The goal of the task force is to work toward creative and cooperative affordable housing solutions for people in Waukesha County.

French said a housing trust fund allows people to live where they work. As the economy turns around, there will be an increased means to house workers. A housing trust fund would increase government revenues and local business owners' income and leverage other funding sources. Developing affordable housing would also encourage employee retention and prevent labor shortages. Affordable housing will happen whether or not a housing fund exists in the form of unguided and undisciplined affordable housing.

Schwanker said a housing trust fund would fill the gap for those people who have jobs but cannot afford housing in Waukesha County. To begin to meet the need for affordable housing in Waukesha County, a housing trust fund should generate \$2.5 million annually, which represents 5% of the costs of producing

affordable housing needed annually as projected in the Waukesha County Comprehensive Development Plan.

Foss-Campbell said three recommended dedicated public revenue sources for a trust fund would be an increase in the real estate transfer fee, county sales tax and property taxes. Other options include loan repayments from previous housing trust fund recipients and an increase in the document recording fee which requires state-enabling legislation. Peschel said there is support for a Waukesha County Trust Fund as seen by the 35 organizations that have endorsed the trust fund and a petition signing campaign.

French explained that affordable housing happens in the degenerated areas of a city. People go where they can afford to live. As the county's demand for workers increases and with a lack of transportation, workers find housing anywhere they can afford it. Unless a housing trust fund has some say in the available housing, there will be no quality housing, just housing created by degeneration.

Haukohl asked how much money is put into affordable housing and rehab in Waukesha County now? Lewinski said \$1.4 million is spent on housing and rehab but little on developments. CDBG responds to submitted applications. A trust fund may make it easier for builders to find funds for developments.

Haukohl said there is a lot of housing in Waukesha County that cost less than \$200K especially with the depressed housing market. Foss-Campbell said affordable housing is scattered and the numbers do not match the need. French said one should not look at the amount of affordable housing units available but rather the projected need for jobs and housing.

Dwyer said this is not just a Waukesha County issue but a statewide issue. There is not a community in the county that does not want to draw development. Development is great but where will the people who work in Waukesha County live. There is no right or wrong answer.

Ruf said there are problems other than difficulties in finding funding for projects. Zoning is extremely prohibitive except in Waukesha. Communities will not change zoning to allow for smaller, more affordable lots. Most communities in this county have a vision of what they want to be and it does not include low income housing. There would be a substantial backlash if Waukesha County tried to finance this. His concern is that the citizens of this county would not be in favor of a housing trust fund. Residents and neighbors do not want low income housing near them. The county board has to be sensitive to that kind of opposition. Foss-Campbell said people fear an increase in crime and a decrease in property values when affordable housing is brought in. Affordable housing can increase the value of an area. The state requiring affordable housing will help. Peschel said part of the problem is that wages have not kept track with the cost of housing.

Dwyer asked if the task force has taken stock of all the affordable housing units sold in the county? Maybe people do not realize we are not talking about "those" people but rather the elderly, young people, people with special needs, etc. Lewinski asked what happens when the economy recovers and workers cannot afford housing in this area. There is a lack of available housing for the working poor. The high demand of housing drives the prices up.

MOTION: Haukohl moved, Paulson second, to adjourn the meeting at 11:26 a.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie J. Morris  
Secretary